



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CARLOS ALVAREZ
MAYOR

November 3, 2005

Mr. Armando Olivera, President
Florida Power and Light
9250 West Flagler St.
Miami, FL 33174

RE: Hurricane Wilma

Dear Mr. Olivera:

I am extremely proud of the dedicated FPL employees and others who worked tirelessly to restore power to the residents of South Florida. In Miami-Dade County alone, over 98% of FPL customers (956,500 out of 980,000) were without power during Hurricane Wilma, and a majority have had their power restored already.

I feel compelled to express my concern regarding the amount of utility poles that fell or were damaged as a result of Hurricane Wilma's sustained winds of approximately 85 miles per hour (based on preliminary estimates). This reiterates the need to increase the maintenance of this infrastructure for its long-term integrity. A report detailing your maintenance schedule and the measures currently – and anticipated to be – in place to safeguard the system would be greatly appreciated.

As you know, South Florida is likely to continue being affected by hurricanes. This fact necessitates a review of key areas of infrastructure and the measures in place to protect these systems. For example, I urge you to thoroughly examine the reasons why many of your substations were severely impacted so that, in the future, power interruption can be minimized and the restoration of power can be quicker. I also suggest that other infrastructure methods (such as underground lines), which may be better able to sustain themselves under adverse weather conditions, be considered in areas not prone to flooding and/or in new developments.

I am requesting that you kindly provide me with a copy of your critical priority list for the restoration of power. Furthermore, it is imperative that you incorporate the local government(s) of the affected area(s) in the priority decision-making process. As with every storm, we grow together and learn what could be improved.

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This is the opportune time for us to collaborate and develop proactive strategies in the best interest of our community.

I am interested in meeting with you and touring some of your facilities, including your command center, your staging site and at least one of your substations. Please contact my office at your earliest convenience so that we can schedule this visit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carlos Alvarez', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Carlos Alvarez

Mayor, Miami-Dade County

c: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez, and Members,
Board of County Commissioners
Harvey Ruvin, Clerk of the Court
George Burgess, County Manager
Murray A. Greenberg, County Attorney
Kay Sullivan, Director, Clerk of the Board